GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Servants - EFS&T Department - Sri S.D. Abdul Gaffar, FSO (Retd.) Initiation of disciplinary action for not handing over the forest produce – Article of Charges issued – Inquiry finalized and findings received – Imposition of penalty of "1% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year besides recovery of Rs.5,11,800/- towards the loss caused to Government" – Show-Cause-Notice issued – Explanation received – Final Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SEC.IV) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 19 Dated: 12-08-2020
Read the following:

1) From the Prl.CCF, Lr.Rc.No.7792/2014/P2, Dated.20.03.2014.
2) From the Prl.CCF, Lr.Rc.No.7792/2014/Vig-4, Dated.20.02.2015.
3) Govt.Memo.No.2399/Sec.IV/A1/2014, Dated.28.02.2015.
4) From the PCCF, Guntur, Lr.Rc.No.7792/2014/A&DC-1, dt.03.04.2018.
5) Govt. Memo.No.2399/Sec.IV/A1/2014, dated 21.05.2018.
6) From the PCCF (HoFF), A.P., Guntur, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-19030/1/2018-ADC-PCCF(7792/2014/A&DC-3), dated 26.09.2018.
7) Govt. Letter No.2399/Sec.IV/A2/2014, dated 25.10.2018.
8) From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.723/DC&C/2018, dated 06.11.2018.
9) Govt. Lr. No. 2399/Sec.IV/A2/2014, dt.5.12.2018.
10) From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr.No.723/DC&C/2018, dt.26.12.2018 and 11.06.2019.
11) From the PCCF (HoFF),Lr. No. 7792/2014/A&DC-3, dt.24.07.2019.
12) Govt. Lr. No. EFS01-FRST0FVIG(DWVC)/1/2020-SEC-IV, dt.13.02.2020.
13) From the Secretary, APPSC, Lr. No. 723/DC&C/2018, dt.09.06.2020.

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ORDER:

In the letter 4th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), A.P., Guntur has informed that an Article of charge was issued to Sri S.D.Abdul Gaffar, Forest Section Officer (Retd.) of Proddatur (WL) Division by the DFO., Proddatur (WL) vide letter Rc.No.1617/2009/P3, dt.21.05.2016, on the following count:-

Article:- *"That Sri S.D.Abdul Gaffar, Forest Section Officer (Retd.) on 19-01-2010 on medical invalidation of Proddatur (WL) Division of Kurnool Circle has grossly neglected his legitimate duties and hoodwinked the Department by mis-chief in showing R.S. Material in violation of Section: 156 of A.P. Forest Department code & Rule No.3 of A.P. Civil Services(Conduct) Rules, 1964."*

2. The Charged Officer acknowledged the Article of Charge on 27-06-2016 and submitted his explanation on 11-09-2016. The Divisional Forest Officer (WL) Proddatur Division appointed the Forest Range Officer, Muddanur Range as Inquiry Officer and the Forest Range Officer, Onipenta as Presenting Officer vide letter dt.24.09.2017 respectively for conduct regular enquiry.

3. The Inquiry Officer conducted the Inquiry and submitted the findings to Divisional Forest Officer (WL) Proddatur vide letter dt.05.12.2017 in which the Inquiry Officer concluded that:

Findings:

> *"……..Though the Charged Officer proceeded on medical leave due to his ill health with unfavorable circumstances and thereby retired on medical invalidation, it is the primary responsibility of the Uniform Government Employee to hand over the charge to his successor under proper T.C.R. before leaving from the Section charge. But in this instance case the delinquent officer has failed to handed over the charge i.e., valuable seized vehicle and R.S. logs which were in his safe custody shown in the A.O.C and simply left over from the Section Charge. Hence the charge framed against him is* ***proved."***

4. The findings of the Inquiry Officer were communicated to the Charged Officer vide letter dt.08.12.2017 for submission of further defense. The Charged Officer submitted dated acknowledgement to the final notice on 19-12-2017 and submitted his further defense statement on 24-01-2018.

5. Since the Charged Officer has retired from Government Service on 19-01-2010 on medical invalidation, the disciplinary proceedings were continued under Rule 9 (2) (b) (I) of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

6. After careful examination of the matter, with reference to the findings of the Inquiring Officer, the remarks of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), and material made available, Government have provisionally decided to impose a penalty of "1% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year besides recovery of Rs.5,11,800/- towards the loss caused to Government" on the charged officer Sri S.D.Abdul Gaffar, Forest Section Officer (Retd.), for the charge held proved, under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

7. Accordingly, a Show-Cause- Notice has been issued to the retired officer vide reference 5th read above. The PCCF vide reference 6th read above has forwarded the further defence statement of the Charged Officer, wherein no fresh and valid points are submitted.

8. Government, after careful examination of the matter hereby order to impose a penalty of "1% cut in pension for a period of one (1) year besides recovery of Rs.5,11,800/- (Rupees five lakhs eleven thousand and eight hundred only) towards loss caused to Government" against Sri S.D.Abdul Gaffar, Forest Section Officer (Retd.), under rule 9 of A.P. Revised Pension Rules, 1980.

9. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), A.P., Guntur shall take action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), A.P., Guntur
(with original record Rc. No. 1617/2009-P3 of DFO, (WL), Proddatur)
The Individual through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Guntur.
Copy to:
The Accountant General (A&E) A.P., Hyderabad.
The Director of Treasuries & Accounts, Ibrahimpatnam, A.P., Vijayawada.

The Secretary, A.P. Public Service Commission, Vijayawada, (with ref. to Lr.No.723/DC&C/2018, dt.09.06.2020).
Sf./Sc.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER